

From: ["Washburn, Ben" </O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE:GROUP \(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT\)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=FDA03CBA30C542059E0AF4208DAD96DA-WASHBURN.BEN>](mailto:Ben.Washburn@FDA03CBA30C542059E0AF4208DAD96DA-WASHBURN.BEN)  
To: ["R7 Daily Digest" <Group>](#)  
CC:  
Date: 8/25/2014 3:43:17 PM  
Subject: OPA Daily Digest 8/25/14

---

#### **OPA Daily Digest for 8/25/14**

#### **Congressional Inquiries:**

None

#### **State Government Inquiries:**

**Sen. Gary Romine** – Email – 8/21/14: Requesting briefing for the Missouri Lead Industry Employment, Economic Development & Environmental Remediation Task Force on 9/9/14. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (open)

#### **Press Inquiries:**

**Greenwire** – Tiffany Stecker – 8/1/14: Requesting interview with RA for profile piece about EPA's relationship with agriculture community. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (open)

**Inside EPA** – Lee Logan – 8/8/14: Inquired about RA's speech at the Greenhouse Gas Strategy Forum on Clean Power Plan. Contact: David Bryan, 7433 (open)

**The Hawk Eye (Burlington, Iowa)** – Sarah Tomkinson – 8/25/14: Ask about rumor that EPA had shutdown the OCI Iowa Fertilizer plant construction in Wever, Iowa on the Mississippi River. Referred her to the Army Corps of Engineers. Contact: David Bryan, 7433 (closed)

**KSDK-TV Ch. 5** – Christina Coleman – 8/25/14: Questions about oil pipelines within Region 7. Referred to Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364 (closed)

#### **Environmental Stories:**

**St. Louis Post-Dispatch - Radiation lawsuit against West Lake Landfill in Bridgeton dismissed** - 8/22/14 - Lawyers for a Bridgeton resident dismissed a class action lawsuit today against Republic Services, owners of the radioactive West Lake Landfill. The lawsuit filed in federal court in April on behalf of John James, a resident of the Spanish Village subdivision, claimed that radiation from the landfill had contaminated nearby homes and businesses. [http://www.stltoday.com/lifestyles/health-med-fit/health/radiation-lawsuit-against-west-lake-landfill-in-bridgeton-dismissed/article\\_fa2e6afa-e82a-5988-81e8-b659fccbbdc0.html](http://www.stltoday.com/lifestyles/health-med-fit/health/radiation-lawsuit-against-west-lake-landfill-in-bridgeton-dismissed/article_fa2e6afa-e82a-5988-81e8-b659fccbbdc0.html)

**Kearney Hub - Sen. Fischer: How much water must EPA control?** - 8/22/14 - As I visit communities across the state, countless Nebraskans continue to express to me their concerns with overreach by the federal government. Specifically, many Nebraskans are frustrated by the EPA's increasingly heavy hand. [http://www.kearneyhub.com/opinions/nationalview/how-much-water-must-epa-control/article\\_c25b8382-2a17-11e4-aeb6-001a4bcf887a.html](http://www.kearneyhub.com/opinions/nationalview/how-much-water-must-epa-control/article_c25b8382-2a17-11e4-aeb6-001a4bcf887a.html)

**High Plains Journal (Hays, Kan.) - EPA, Corps hijack Clean Water Act to expand regulatory authority** – 8/25/14 - According to National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), states could be facing upwards of 100,000 added regulated stream miles as a result of the "Waters of the United States" rule proposed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). <http://www.hpj.com/archives/2014/aug14/aug25/0818WaterRuleMissouriirt.cfm?t=EPA,-Corps-hijack-Clean-Water-Act-to-expand-regulatory-authority>

**Radio Iowa - Branstad says Deere layoffs linked to EPA's RFS decision** - 8/23/14 - Governor Terry Branstad is blaming the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the recent layoffs at Deere and Company. Deere announced last week that over 100 people will be laid off indefinitely from its plant in Ankeny, then yesterday, <http://www.radioiowa.com/2014/08/23/branstad-says-deere-layoffs-linked-to-epas-rfs-decision/>

**KSPR Ch. 33 Springfield, Mo. - Construction begins around Springfield City Government Plaza** - 8/24/14 - Starting Tuesday, work begins on a grant-funded project to demonstrate stormwater management techniques to reduce the amount of runoff and pollution that reach area streams. [http://www.kspr.com/news/local/construction-begins-around-springfield-city-government-plaza/21051620\\_27705816](http://www.kspr.com/news/local/construction-begins-around-springfield-city-government-plaza/21051620_27705816)

**Des Moines Register - Reader's Watchdog: Water loss prompts investigation** - 8/24/14 - Water ran dry last week in rural Hutchins in far northern Iowa, leaving some folks wondering if the installation of a new irrigation system or dry weather was to blame. <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/investigations/readers-watchdog/2014/08/25/readers-watchdog-water-loss-investigation/14551205/>

NOTE: Paywall issues may keep you from seeing this article. Full text is included at the end of this email.

**Omaha World-Herald - Keystone XL pipeline stances are key in tight race for Nebraska governor** - 8/24/14 - When it comes to the controversial Keystone XL pipeline project, Republican Pete Ricketts and Democrat Chuck Hassebrook hold polar opposite views on whether or not the pipeline should be built: Ricketts is a yes, Hassebrook a no. [http://www.omaha.com/news/metro/keystone-xl-stances-are-key-in-tight-race-for-nebraska/article\\_ad663bd9-55d3-557c-9627-efcdd3b50f9a.html](http://www.omaha.com/news/metro/keystone-xl-stances-are-key-in-tight-race-for-nebraska/article_ad663bd9-55d3-557c-9627-efcdd3b50f9a.html)

**The News-Leader, Springfield, Mo. - MSU signs up to buy solar energy from CU** - 8/24/14 - Highlighting its role as a community leader in sustainability, Missouri State University was among the first customers to pre-enroll to receive energy from City Utilities' new solar farm. <http://www.news-leader.com/story/news/local/ozarks/2014/08/25/msu-signs-buy-solar-energy-cu/14551019/>

**Topeka Capital-Journal (Kan.) - No new trial for Neodesha in long-running feud with BP** - 8/22/14 - The Kansas Court of Appeals has refused to order a new trial in a class-action suit in which the city of Neodesha and its residents claimed BP of North America needed to do more to clean up industrial pollution from a refinery closed in 1970. <http://cjonline.com/news/state/2014-08-22/no-new-trial-neodesha-long-running-feud-bp>

**Associated Press - Member of Omaha Tribe receiving national honor** - 8/25/14 - A member of Nebraska's Omaha Tribe who leads traditional songs is receiving a national honor. The National Endowment for the Arts says Rufus White has been named a 2014 National Heritage Fellow. He will be recognized at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., on Sept. 17. [http://journalstar.com/news/state-and-regional/nebraska/member-of-omaha-tribe-receiving-national-honor/article\\_8418e9eb-6b08-50a4-afdd-806741c9d9dd.html](http://journalstar.com/news/state-and-regional/nebraska/member-of-omaha-tribe-receiving-national-honor/article_8418e9eb-6b08-50a4-afdd-806741c9d9dd.html)

**Environmental Leader - Manufacturing redevelopment and urban agriculture are among the projects that will receive supplemental EPA funding** — the agency has made available \$11 million — to help clean up contaminated brownfields properties, including the Westport Middle School site in Kansas City, Mo.  
<http://www.environmentalleader.com/2014/08/25/11m-in-brownfields-cleanup-funds-awarded/>

**Iowa Farm Bureau (release) - Water Quality Efforts to be Highlighted at Farm Progress Show** - 8/22/14 - Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey today said that encouraging farmers to continue to use voluntary, science-based conservation practices will be a key focus at the 2014 Farm Progress Show, held August 26-28 in Boone.  
<http://www.iowafarmbureau.com/articles/125878/water-quality-efforts-to-be-highlighted-at-farm-progress-show>

**Kansas City Business Journal - Energy secretary: KC's new NNSA facility a model for U.S.** - 8/22/14 - After eight years of planning, construction and the largest industrial move in the United States, the U.S. Department of Energy officially dedicated the new \$687 million National Security Campus in Kansas City.  
<http://www.bizjournals.com/kansascity/news/2014/08/22/national-security-campus-nnsa-kansas-city.html>

**Iowa Biodiesel Board - Study Shows Iowans Widely Support Expanding Biodiesel Policy** - 8/21/14 - If any doubt lingered as to where Iowans stand on growing the renewable fuels market, new research shows they overwhelmingly support it. In fact, 77 percent of registered voters surveyed said they support expanding the federal Renewable Fuel Standard to increase biodiesel in the fuel supply.  
[http://www.iowabiodiesel.org/index.cfm/24359/32373/study\\_shows\\_iowans\\_widely\\_support\\_expanding\\_biodiesel\\_policy](http://www.iowabiodiesel.org/index.cfm/24359/32373/study_shows_iowans_widely_support_expanding_biodiesel_policy)

**Topeka Capital-Journal (Kan.) - Kansas' climate change debate settled in Europe** - 8/23/14 - As Kansas legislators argue about whether climate change is happening, European leaders act. <http://cjonline.com/news/2014-08-23/kansas-climate-change-debate-settled-europe>

**Fulton Sun - Our Opinion: Transparency needed in contaminated power plant water issue** - 8/24/14 - We don't anticipate three-eyed fish in Stinson Creek or glasses of water in our homes that can double as nightlights. But we do have some concerns and could put our minds at ease with a bit more transparency.  
<http://www.fultonsun.com/news/2014/aug/24/our-opinion-transparency-needed-contaminated-power/>

**Waterloo-Cedar Falls Courier – Mitchell Board Addresses Nitrate Issues** - 8/25/14 - The Mitchell County Board of Supervisors has OK'd an engineering report that asks approval from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources to install an ion exchange system to address high nitrates in the water at the Mitchell County Care Facility.  
[http://wccourier.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/mitchell-board-addresses-nitrate-issues/article\\_47125c93-15ec-53c5-8ca3-479917a5f914.html](http://wccourier.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/mitchell-board-addresses-nitrate-issues/article_47125c93-15ec-53c5-8ca3-479917a5f914.html)

**Farm & Ranch - SPNRD watching Chappell wastewater decision with interest** - 8/24/14 - While it didn't adopt an official position, the South Platte Natural Resources District is watching with interest as the city of Chappell looks at replacing its dated wastewater treatment facility. [http://www.starherald.com/farm\\_ranch/spnrd-watching-chappell-wastewater-decision-with-interest/article\\_f3b23588-92e7-56d7-8cd0-2896f5ce8a68.html](http://www.starherald.com/farm_ranch/spnrd-watching-chappell-wastewater-decision-with-interest/article_f3b23588-92e7-56d7-8cd0-2896f5ce8a68.html)

**National Review - The EPA's Power Grab** - 8/24/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Power Plan (CPP) mandates sweeping reductions of CO2 emissions from existing electrical-generation plants. The assault on the dual sovereignty of the states — the federalism enshrined in our Tenth Amendment — is nothing new.  
<http://www.nationalreview.com/article/386185/epas-power-grab-bill-peacock>

**Washington Post: The Post's View: The country's sinking climate debate** - 8/24/14 - The national debate on climate change has devolved. Action of some kind, at some point, is inevitable. Our proposition is that it should come sooner rather than later and be smart rather than clumsy. [http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-countrys-sinking-climate-debate/2014/08/24/d4d4aeca-29ff-11e4-86ca-6f03cbd15c1a\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/the-countrys-sinking-climate-debate/2014/08/24/d4d4aeca-29ff-11e4-86ca-6f03cbd15c1a_story.html)

**New York Times - Opinion: The Climate Swerve** - 8/23/14 - Americans appear to be undergoing a significant psychological shift in our relation to global warming. I call this shift a climate “swerve,” borrowing the term used recently by the Harvard humanities professor Stephen Greenblatt to describe a major historical change in consciousness that is neither predictable nor orderly. <http://www.nytimes.com/2014/08/24/opinion/sunday/the-climate-swerve.html>

**Science News - Carbon capture and storage finally approaching debut** - 8/22/14 - This year, the story of carbon capture and storage could change. In North America, two commercial-scale power plants are on the cusp of firing up CCS technology for the first time. <https://www.sciencenews.org/article/carbon-capture-and-storage-finally-approaching-debut>

**Environmental Leader - Saving Money Is No. 1 Sustainability Driver** - 8/25/14 - Saving money is the no. 1 reason executives give for moving towards more environmentally sustainable business practices, according to a Grant Thornton report. <http://www.environmentalleader.com/2014/08/25/saving-money-is-no-1-sustainability-driver/>

**Huffington Post - Ozone-Depleting Compound Found In Unexpected Concentrations Despite Ban** - 8/23/14 - New research from NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center shows that large quantities of a chemical responsible for depleting the ozone layer are still being emitted, even years after an international ban. [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/08/23/ozone-depleting-compound-found\\_n\\_5701157.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/08/23/ozone-depleting-compound-found_n_5701157.html)

**Domestic Fuel - RFS Headed to OMB for Review** - 8/22/14 - The Environmental Protection Agency has sent its final rule on 2014 volume obligations under the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) to the White House Office of Management and Budget for review in a last step before public release. Renewable fuels groups responded to the news today. <http://domesticfuel.com/2014/08/22/rfs-headed-to-omb-for-review/>

**Motley Fool - Sorry, Solar and Wind, but Natural Gas Wins** - 8/24/14 - Fracking is expected to fuel an astounding 56% surge in U.S. natural gas production from 2012 to 2040 according to projections from the U.S. Energy Information Agency. <http://www.fool.com/investing/general/2014/08/24/sorry-solar-and-wind-but-natural-gas-wins.aspx>

**NBC News - Climate Bomb? Methane Vents Bubble on Seafloor off East Coast: Study** - 8/25/14 - Methane appears to be bubbling up from more than 500 vents on the Atlantic Ocean floor off the U.S. East Coast, according to a new study in a finding that could have profound long-term implications for the global climate. <http://www.nbcnews.com/science/environment/climate-bomb-methane-vents-bubble-seafloor-east-coast-study-n187551>

**Forbes - Geothermal Power Steaming Over Wind And Solar Energies** - 8/25/14 - All the talk about the government subsidies given to the various energy forms has one fuel source steaming: geothermal power, which ranks fourth among all renewable energies in terms of total capacity — after wind, solar and hydro. <http://www.forbes.com/sites/kensilverstein/2014/08/25/geothermal-power-steaming-over-wind-and-solar-energies/>

**National Journal - Will Hispanic Voters Alter the Politics of Climate Change?** - 8/25/14 - Last week, a review of nine public-opinion polls concluded that global warming is an important issue for Hispanic voters. The polling also indicated that protecting air and water quality rank as top voter priorities for Hispanics. <http://www.nationaljournal.com/energy/will-hispanic-voters-alter-the-politics-of-climate-change-20140825>

**Quartz - The story of Elon Musk and GM's race to build the first mass-market electric car** - 8/24/14 - One of the hottest clashes in technology pits two pathmakers in the new era of electric cars—Tesla and General Motors. Both are developing pure electrics that cost roughly \$35,000, travel 200 miles on a single charge, and appeal to the mass luxury market. <http://qz.com/252990/the-story-of-elon-musk-and-gms-race-to-build-the-first-mass-market-electric-car/>

**Newsmax - Obama's Regulatory Push Could Endanger Democrats in Fall** - 8/23/14 - President Barack Obama is pushing forward new government regulations even though it risks the Democrats losing control of the Senate in this fall's congressional elections, groups that follow such efforts say. <http://www.newsmax.com/Politics/obama->

[regulation-danger-democrats/2014/08/23/id/590496](http://thehill.com/regulation/pending-regs/215809-obama-hits-the-gas-on-regs)

**The Hill - Obama hits the gas on regs** - 8/23/14 - Groups that closely follow regulations are expecting the Obama administration to continue issuing controversial rules through the midterm elections, despite the political risk it could pose for Democrats. <http://thehill.com/regulation/pending-regs/215809-obama-hits-the-gas-on-regs>

**Newsmax - Air in US Cities Is Cleaner: EPA** - 8/22/14 - The air in American cities is getting safer to breathe, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency reported Thursday. Significant progress has been made in reducing levels of harmful substances in urban air in recent decades. <http://www.newsmaxhealth.com/Health-News/air-pollution-toxic-chemicals/2014/08/22/id/590329/>

**Toronto Star (Canada) - An inside look at U.S. think tank's plans to undo environmental legislation** - 8/24/14 - The corporate-sponsored American Legislative Exchange Council works with lobbyists and legislators to derail climate change policies. [http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2014/08/24/us\\_think\\_tank\\_alc\\_fights\\_environmental\\_legislation.html](http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2014/08/24/us_think_tank_alc_fights_environmental_legislation.html)

**Forbes (blog) - Disconnect Between Claims For Solar And Reality** - 8/25/14 - In my last post, I noted that opponents of solar power tend to seize on problems like the frying of birds by solar concentrators and arguably exaggerate them. However, now I will turn to the other side, and note that solar power proponents present an unremittingly positive view of solar, but one that is unrealistic. <http://www.forbes.com/sites/michaelyllynch/2014/08/25/disconnect-between-claims-for-solar-and-reality/>

**The Guardian (U.K.) - 'Incredible' rate of polar ice loss alarms scientists** - 8/23/14 - A European satellite has shown ice sheets shrinking at 120 cubic miles a year in Antarctica and Greenland. <http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2014/aug/24/incredible-polar-ice-loss-cryosat-antarctica-greenland>

**Environmental Leader - Recycle Across America Joins R2 Recycling Leader Program** - 8/25/14 - Recycle Across America is the newest group to join the R2 Recycling Leader program, which is designed to support efforts by companies and organizations to advance the responsible reuse and recycling of used electronics. <http://www.environmentalleader.com/2014/08/25/recycle-across-america-joins-r2-recycling-leader-program/>

**Greenwire - MIT study finds health benefits offset costs of climate policies** - 8/25/14 - Savings due to avoided health problems help offset -- and in some cases greatly outweigh -- the costs of carbon dioxide-cutting policies in the United States, according to a new study. <http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1060004866/>

**Greenwire - Industry slams EPA ozone standard at Vitter's field briefing** - 8/25/14 - Sen. David Vitter (R-La.) has taken his criticism of U.S. EPA's ozone standard back to his home state during the congressional recess. <http://www.eenews.net/greenwire/stories/1060004884/>

**E&E News - 'Major investment cycle' and rapidly changing U.S. energy markets pose fresh challenges for FERC -- Chairman LaFleur** - 8/22/14 - Prudent. That word might best describe Cheryl LaFleur's approach to her job -- and answering questions about it -- as chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. <http://www.eenews.net/stories/1060004814>

**ClimateWire - Sun's activity influences regional climate change and skeptics -- study** - 8/25/14 - Almost every scientist agrees that the Earth is warming. But how important is the sun? According to a study released this week, the star that heats and lights our planet year-round plays a notable -- and poorly understood -- role in natural climate change on Earth. <http://www.eenews.net/climatewire/stories/1060004808/>

**BNA - Polyvinyl Chloride Disposal Should Be Regulated, Center Says in Petition to EPA** - 8/22/14 - The Center for Biological Diversity has petitioned the Environmental Protection Agency to classify polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and some of the chemicals added to it as hazardous wastes and to develop regulations for its disposal.

[http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=51903065&vname=denotallissues&jd=a0f4y8m1h6&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=51903065&vname=denotallissues&jd=a0f4y8m1h6&split=0)

**BNA - EPA Sends 2014 Renewable Fuel Standard Final Rule to OMB for Interagency Review** - 8/22/14 - The EPA sent its final rule to the White House Office of Management and Budget for interagency review Aug. 22. That is typically the last step before the rule is published in the Federal Register.

[http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split\\_display.adp?fedfid=51903061&vname=denotallissues&jd=a0f4y8h5w0&split=0](http://news.bna.com/deln/DELNWB/split_display.adp?fedfid=51903061&vname=denotallissues&jd=a0f4y8h5w0&split=0)

**Inside EPA - Doubting State, Industry Harms, EPA Again Urges Court To Reinstate CSAPR** - 8/22/14 - EPA is again urging a federal appeals court to reinstate implementation of its Cross-State Air Pollution Rule (CSAPR) while delaying the rule's compliance deadlines by three years. <http://insideepa.com/201408222479945/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/doubting-state-industry-harms-epa-again-urges-court-to-reinstate-csapr/menu-id-95.html>

**Inside EPA - EPA Reaffirms 1994 Approach To Combined Sewer Overflow Policy** - 8/22/14 - EPA is reaffirming its commitment to its 1994 policy for combined sewer overflows (CSO), which approaches regulating the discharges with cost/performance curves in evaluating costs and alternatives. <http://insideepa.com/Water-Policy-Report/Water-Policy-Report-08/25/2014/epa-reaffirms-1994-approach-to-combined-sewer-overflow-policy/menu-id-127.html>

**Inside EPA - Groups Criticize EPA Proposal To Overhaul Human Health Water Criteria** - 8/22/14 - State regulators and water industry groups are criticizing EPA's new proposed methods for setting water quality criteria to protect human health as overly stringent and complex. <http://insideepa.com/Water-Policy-Report/Water-Policy-Report-08/25/2014/groups-criticize-epa-proposal-to-overhaul-human-health-water-criteria/menu-id-127.html>

**Inside EPA - Peer Reviewers At Odds On EPA Methane Papers But Seek Better GHG Data** - 8/20/14 - Peer reviewers charged with commenting on EPA white papers examining sources of methane emissions from energy production are largely split on any policy outcomes and a host of other issues but they agree that the agency needs to improve its data. <http://insideepa.com/201408202479713/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/peer-reviewers-at-odds-on-epa-methane-papers-but-seek-better-ghg-data/menu-id-95.html>

**Inside EPA - Industry Calls For New Finance Utilities To Cut Mississippi Basin Nutrients** - 8/22/14 - Agriculture and water utility groups are urging regulators to develop novel "watershed protection utilities" (WPU) that would collect and dispense financing for projects to reduce nutrient-reduction pollution in Mississippi River Basin states. <http://insideepa.com/Water-Policy-Report/Water-Policy-Report-08/25/2014/industry-calls-for-new-finance-utilities-to-cut-mississippi-basin-nutrients/menu-id-127.html>

**Inside EPA - CEQ Floats New Guide For 'Programmatic' NEPA Reviews** - 8/22/14 - The White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is proposing new guidance for how federal agencies should assess the environmental impacts of new or revised programs under the National Environmental Policy Act. <http://insideepa.com/Water-Policy-Report/Water-Policy-Report-08/25/2014/ceq-floats-new-guide-for-programmatic-nepa-reviews/menu-id-127.html>

**Inside EPA - EPA Appears To Reject SAB Calls To Clarify Controversial 'Waters' Proposal** - 8/22/14 - EPA appears to be rejecting calls from a Science Advisory Board (SAB) panel to clarify critical provisions in its controversial plan for clarifying when waters are subject to Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction. <http://insideepa.com/Water-Policy-Report/Water-Policy-Report-08/25/2014/epa-appears-to-reject-sab-calls-to-clarify-controversial-waters-proposal/menu-id-127.html>

**Inside EPA - D.C. Circuit Schedules Arguments In Suits Over EPA Rules** - 8/22/14 - The U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit has announced dates for oral arguments in several challenges to EPA regulations. <http://insideepa.com/201408222479942/EPA-Blog/News-Briefs/dc-circuit-schedules-arguments-in-suits-over-epa-rules/menu-id-97.html>

**Inside EPA - States, GOP Ramp Up Concerns Over Costs Of Stricter EPA Ozone NAAQS** - 8/22/14 - Several states and Republican lawmakers are ramping up their concerns over the potential economic costs of EPA's expected tightening of its ozone national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS). <http://insideepa.com/201408222479884/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/states-gop-ramp-up-concerns-over-costs-of-stricter-epa-ozone-naaqs/menu-id-95.html>

**Inside EPA - Sierra Club Suit May Serve As Backstop For Enforcing 2008 Ozone NAAQS** - 8/22/14 - The Sierra Club is suing EPA in a bid to force the agency to issue what it says are long overdue designations for 57 areas as violating the 2008 ozone air standard. <http://insideepa.com/201408222479883/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/sierra-club-suit-may-serve-as-backstop-for-enforcing-2008-ozone-naaqs/menu-id-95.html>

**Inside EPA - New Report Eyes EPA Climate Rules As 'Back Door' To National RPS** - 8/22/14 - A new report by energy consulting firm ScottMadden says EPA's climate rules for existing power plants could serve as a "back door" to establishing a national renewable energy standard and help some states retain their standards as a means of complying with the agency's rules. <http://cleanenergyreport.com/201408222479948/Clean-Energy-Report-Daily-News/News/new-report-eyes-epa-climate-rules-as-back-door-to-national-rps/menu-id-202.html>

**Inside EPA - In Hurdle For ESPS, Multi-State Pacts May Need Hill Approval, Attorneys Say** - 8/25/14 - A group of energy lawyers says states that adopt multi-state plans for complying with EPA's proposed greenhouse gas (GHG) standards for existing power plants may require congressional approval. <http://insideepa.com/201408252480015/EPA-Daily-News/Daily-News/in-hurdle-for-esps-multi-state-pacts-may-need-hill-approval-attorneys-say/menu-id-95.html>

#### **Press Releases:**

Link to all R7 press releases: <http://go.usa.gov/Qx5>

**EPA Regional Administrator to Deliver Keynote Address on Water Quality at Farm Progress Show, Aug. 27, in Boone, Iowa** – 8/25/14 – Contact: Kris Lancaster, 7557

#### **Fact Sheets:**

Link to all R7 fact sheets: <http://www.epa.gov/region7/factsheets>

None

#### **Upcoming Administrator/RA Events:**

\* New additions noted with an asterisk

**\*8/26-27/14** – Farm Progress Show, Boone, Iowa. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

**9/3/14** – Office of Water Visit to Region 7, Regional Office. Contact: Karen Flournoy, 7782

**9/10/14** - Kansas City Steel Redevelopment/Walmart Grand Opening, Kansas City, Kan. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

**9/10/14** – U.S. Health & Human Services Senior Leadership Meeting (Clean Power Plan), Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Curtis Carey, 7506

**9/14-17/14** – Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) Fall Meeting, Santa Fe, N.M. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**8/28/14** – The Nature Conservancy-Missouri Board of Trustees Reception, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

**8/29/14** – Interview with Greenwire, Regional Office. Contact: Ben Washburn, 7364

**8/30/14** – Dedication Ceremony – Kickapoo Diabetes Walking/Running Trail, Horton, Kan. Contact: Patrick Bustos, 7969

**9/30/14** – Midwest Energy Policy Conference, St. Louis, Mo. Contact: LaTonya Sanders, 7555

**10/9/14** – Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce Energy & Environmental Roundtable and Reception, Kansas City, Mo. Contact: Dave Bryan, 7433

**10/10/14** – Nebraska State Bar Association, La Vista, Neb. Contact: Julia Cacho, 7071

#### **DRA:**

**9/10/14** - Next Generation State Visit, Jefferson City, Mo. Contact: Kevin Barthol, 7XXX

**9/16/14** - Meet with Arthur Elkins, Office of Inspector General, Regional Office Contact: Renee McGhee-Lenart

**10/7/14** - Employee Appreciation Event, Regional Office contact: Monica Espinosa, 7XXX

#### **RA/Immediate Office**

None

#### **Other Events**

#### **AWMD**

None

#### **CNSL**

None

#### **ECO/EJ**

**9/30/14** – National EJ Coordinator’s Meeting in Washington, D.C. Contact: Tamara Freeman, 7094

## **ENSV**

None

## **PLMG**

**8/21/14** – Culture of Appreciation Town Hall Discussion, Big Rivers Conference Room, Regional Office, 1:00-2:30. Contact: Monica Espinosa, 7541, Deborah Bredehoft, 7164

## **RA/OPA**

**9/29-30/14** - Healthy Schools Outreach, Missouri School Plant Managers' Association Conference, Four Seasons, Lake of the Ozarks, Mo. Contact: Kathleen Fenton, 7874 and Harry Diesel, 7382

## **SUPR**

**8/25/14** – North West Missouri LEPC Meeting, St. Joseph, Mo. – Contact: Scott Hayes, 7670

**8/27/14** – West Central Missouri LEPC Meeting, Warrensburg, Mo. – Contact: Scott Hayes, 7670

## **WWPD**

**8/18-21/14** – Purdue Pesticide Program Certification and Training Workshop, Indianapolis, Ind. Contact: Douglas Jones, 7592

**\*8/25-26/14** – State Revolving Fund Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Summit, Ankeny, Iowa. Contact: Christopher Simmons, 7237

**8/26-28/14** – Kansas Water Environment Association/Kansas Section, American Water Works Association Joint Conference, Topeka, Kan. Contact: Wayne Dillard, 7885

**9/8-11/14** – National EPA Small Systems Drinking Water Technical Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio. Contact: Stan Calow, 7410

**9/9/14** – Iowa Department of Natural Resources Drinking Water Program Meeting, Des Moines, Iowa. Contact: Neftali Hernandez-Santiago, 7036

**\*9/10-11/14** – Kansas Department of Health and Environment Geology Seminar presentations, Wichita, Kan. Contacts: David Garrett, 7159, Kurt Hildebrandt, 7413

**9/18-19/14** – Shell Creek Watershed Planning Meeting, Platte Center, Neb. Contact: Heather Duncan, 7640

## **Des Moines Register**

### **Reader's Watchdog: Water loss prompts investigation**

By Lee Rood, [lrOOD@dmreg.com](mailto:lrOOD@dmreg.com)

11:49 p.m. CDT August 24, 2014

Water ran dry last week in rural Hutchins in far northern Iowa, leaving some folks wondering if the installation of a new irrigation system or dry weather was to blame.

But the short-lived hassle does not appear to be a part of the drought affecting many states in the West, Southwest and Midwest, experts told me.

Problems began after landowner Barry Ewoldt of Traer started using a new pivot irrigation system last week, and anywhere from five to 15 property owners in the area lost water, according to Michael Anderson of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

One of the neighbors affected, DeAnna Kelly, a real estate agent in Britt, said she lost water on her acreage for two days, but still isn't sure of the cause.

"We had to call the well company and lower our pump," she said. "We had to do something rather quickly because we have four children."

An on-site investigation started Tuesday and continues. If Ewoldt is found responsible, he could have to help pay to lower the pumps inside wells on other landowners' property, Anderson said.

Such problems happen only about twice a year in Iowa.

Iowa began to require permits from users of large amounts of water after the droughts of the 1950s, and now requires one for any user of more 25,000 gallons of water per day.

All waters, surface and groundwater, are considered "public waters and public wealth" of Iowa citizens. State water rights law aims to conserve the resource and prevent unnecessary waste or unreasonable use.

Ewoldt did obtain the necessary permit this spring, but neighbors started complaining to the DNR immediately after he began using the irrigation system that they didn't have water. Some have complained the DNR is not acting fast enough, but the agency has to investigate because of other wells and a quarry in the area, Anderson said.

Ewoldt owns farm ground in Tama and Benton counties as well as Hancock, USDA records show.

Deb Williams, a geologist with the DNR who visited the site and interviewed the pump installer, told me Wednesday that some of the neighbors have seen their water restored.

She said she's collecting data to try to determine whether the new irrigation system was really to blame.

"But a lot of the wells in the area are more than five years old, and back then we didn't require the same data to be submitted that we do now," she said.

Pockets of northern Iowa have been very dry this year, but there have been no widespread issues with shallow wells in Iowa, according to Michael Hayes, director of the National Drought Mitigation Center in Lincoln, Neb.